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INTRODUCTION: The Karl Marx Academy is the last way station through which an SED functionary passes to qualify for a responsible position above district level. The Academy is not, however, an absolute prerequisite for such advancement, nor are all students attending its courses in line for advancement. Some students already have leading positions and are sent to the Academy to brush up on their theoretical knowledge of Marxist philosophy. In many instances, however, these students consider their attending the Academy a demotion, in that it reflects either on their ideological stability or on their proficiency in discharging their official duties. For the majority of the students, however, admission to the Academy signifies to them that they have been recognized as having the qualifications for an important Party position. Graduation from the Academy will in most cases launch them into a promising career. The Party directs that the function of the Academy is to turn out functionaries fitted for responsible positions and naturally to eliminate all others. For this reason inordinate stress is placed upon moulding the student's personality into a pliable instrument of the Party's will. All symptoms of actual or latent deviation are carefully recorded and, unless suppressed by process of indoctrination, are considered as reasons for disqualification. No doubts as to the student's ideological affinity can be stifled by an outstanding scholastic record. The Academy's principal objective, then, is not limited to imparting theoretical knowledge and to turning out versed theoreticians.

For the uninitiated observer it is difficult to grasp the full scope and intensity of the methods used to force the student's thinking into line with the doctrines of the Party. What in Party parlance is known as "triping the enemy within" and what is accomplished through "criticism and self-criticism", in fact amounts to a complete reshaping of the student's thinking processes. He is furnished with a ready-made frame of reference enabling him to dismiss all inhibitions which normally block his will to surrender independence of thought and his right to inviolable privacy. In this connection the Stalin myth appears to play a very important role. [redacted] the unquestioning acceptance of Stalin's supremacy as the foundation of all true Party doctrine, the attributes of infallibility bestowed on him, and the intellectual debasement this entails on the part of Communists.

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are designed to overcome the last remnants of protest against the palpable untruths and inconsistencies to which the Marxist philosophy has to resort in order to keep pace with the domestic and foreign policies of the Soviet Union. An analysis of the educational system used in the Karl Marx Academy furnishes an up-to-date and reasonably accurate picture of the current Party doctrine. Since SED policies are closely linked with the policy planning of the Russian Communist Party, it should be possible to draw certain broad inferences on the latter. The lectures and seminars on the official History of the CP SU (USSR), though ostensibly concerned with past events, should be carefully observed. All indoctrination media of the Communist Party have been committed to convince Party members that this History - and in particular the methods resorted to by the founders of Bolshevism in overcoming the many obstacles astride the road leading to the dictatorship of the proletariat - can be applied with equal force today. In that respect it would be no exaggeration to say that, in furthering the aims of world Communism, the Short History of the CP (USSR) now is as important to that movement as Hitler's "Mein Kampf" was to National Socialism. Lectures given by a visiting lecturer - in proportion to his position and willingness to comment on current topics - in some instances contribute valuable source material on Communist Party planning. It stands to reason that some of those lecturers speaking before the cream of the Communist functionary corps do not hesitate occasionally to talk freely.

Some of the Academy students will ultimately reach the upper brackets of the Party hierarchy. In assessing their dominant personality traits, one would have to take into account their scholastic record and personal views during this formative phase of their Party career.

The report which follows is a detailed description of the school administration, faculties, courses and methods of instruction, student life and Party activities and general conditions of the Karl Marx Academy.

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25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

1. The administration of the Karl Marx Hochschule consists of a principal, a deputy principal and the following officials:

Five deans;
The Party directorate of the school;
The heads of the study courses (one for each);
The functionary for cultural affairs.

The deans are without exception Party functionaries of long standing who were active in the workers' movement before 1933. Some of them spent part of their lives in the USSR. The Party directorate (as opposed to the Party directorates of the various study courses) consists of a Party secretary and various assistants. Several members of the school administration (Lindau, Hans Mickin) also belong to the Party Directorate. The school receives its directives either from the Party Directorate or the Politburo.

- 25X1 2. The school administration is headed by Rudolf Lindau.

3. The deputy principal is Heinz Abraham. He emigrated to the USSR in the mid-twenties. His special field is the study of the History of the CP USSR (B) - specifically, the combatting of Trotzkyism. After the return of Lindau, Abraham is slated to take over the department CP USSR (B).

4. Hans Taeubner heads the Lehrabteilung (instruction section). He recently returned from a fact-finding mission in the USSR.

5. The following are the deans:

History - (fna) Paterna
Polit/Economy - Dr. (fna) Lemnitz
Philosophy - Victor Stern
Basic Problems - (fna) Dorf

25X1

6. There are approximately thirty instructors, some of them former students of the school. The teaching staff, however, is not considered large enough to satisfy requirements. An increase of about thirty instructors, presumably to come from current classes, is contemplated.

7. A large portion of the instructors used to teach in the so-called Gebietsschulen in the USSR. These Gebietsschulen are Antifa institutions of learning, in their level of training roughly compared to Landesparteischulen German style. The instructors have for the most part been placed in touch with the problems of Marxism only after their capture by the Russians. On grounds of security their past is shrouded in secrecy. Since their antecedents do not always add to the honor of the Party, they are better left unknown. Some of the instructors are said to have occupied leading positions in the Hitler Youth movement. One of them named Puls was a member of the NSDAP. As a matter of general policy the life history of all teachers, not only of the aforementioned category, is kept secret.

8. Instructors with families live in Klein-Machnow. Some of them, besides teaching at school, occupy functionary positions in the local Party group. (This activity should not be confused with the Party unit, called Stalin, which is composed of the instructor body of the school). Personal visits, hikes, etc., are undesirable if they involve unmarried instructors and students. Illicit affairs between instructors and female students are not countenanced.

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25X1

9. The following are instructors:

Wolfgang Clausnitzer
Herrmann Naffroth
Wolfgang Schiel (Polit/Economy)
(fnu) Puls
Goetz Scharf (Philosophy)
Sascha Gruettner
Margot Taut
(fnu) Bergmann

25X1

10. The Party Directorate of the one-year study course is composed as follows:

a. The Pol/Leiter is Artur Franke, an official of the East Berlin Criminal Police.

25X1

b. The Org/Leiter is Hanni Gloeckner. She is the first secretary of the district headquarters of the National Front organization in the ~~Wismuth~~ AG, Chemnitz.

25X1

c. Ilse Wittwika is the editor of the bulletin board newspaper. In Saxony-Anhalt she edits the news organ of the functionaries of the Landesvorstand of that land.

25X1

d. Hans-Gustav Schroeter is the functionary for competitions and extra-curricular activities. His position is that of a Referent in the Ministry for Foreign Trade of the DDR.

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1

25X1

e. Artur Hummich is functionary for social and health affairs.

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f. Franz Hoepfner is functionary for cultural affairs. His position is that of section chief of Abteilung Kultur und Erziehung in the Landesvorstand of Land Mecklenburg.

25X1

g. Brigitte Zech is the functionary for sports. She is teacher in a district Party school.

25X1

h. Walter Mickin is the responsible functionary for studies. He is the first chairman of the VVN in Land Brandenburg and a Referent in the Abteilung Massenagitation of the SED Landesvorstand Brandenburg.

25X1

11. Potential students proposed by the Kader section of the Landesvorstaende. The recommendation of the secretariat of the Landesvorstand goes to the Kader section of the Party Directorate (Parteivorstand) which makes the final selection from the names submitted by all the Landesvorstaende. The names of those selected are submitted to the Politbüro for final confirmation. If the available quota has not been filled, either because the Landesvorstaende failed to submit a sufficient number of candidates or because the Party Directorate turned down too many of them, it is up to the Politbüro to decide whether the quota is to be filled from a subsidiary list. Functionaries whose names are placed on the subsidiary list are summoned to the admission test by a special directive of the Politbüro.

12. Candidates are required to undergo an admission test conducted by a Landesverband. The Party Directorate, however, is represented on this commission by a member of its Kader section and by a member of its training section. The test is partly theoretical and partly an examination of the candidate's curriculum vitae. The latter part is

25X1

done by direct questioning designed to ferret out contradictions between data supplied in the curriculum vitae and the candidate's verbal statements. It is no mere formality. In fact it is usually carried out by a skilled investigator who endeavors to probe into the hidden depths of the candidate's past life and who resorts to all manner of tricks to trip up the candidate. Blunt questions varied with unabashed insults are formulated to break the candidate's reserve. Nervous breakdowns and crying fits are not uncommon. The second test lasts two days. It consists of a written and an oral test and is given in the school.

13. In the selection of a candidate, special stress is placed upon his practical experience as a Party worker, his Party allegiance and his social origin. A secondary factor is the candidate's theoretical knowledge. Candidates whose personal questionnaire leaves a question of even minor significance unanswered are not admitted. Any candidate who has been a prisoner of the Western powers is automatically disqualified. Special value is attached to female candidates. The current study course has been filled mainly with young functionaries whose average age is 24 years.
14. District party school (Kreispartei-schule) instructors form a sizeable part of the student body in a study course. District functionaries, especially Party training specialists (Referat Parteischulung), Land functionaries especially desk heads (Referenten) and Instruktoren and newspaper editors are represented in considerable numbers. There are comparatively few members of the Party Directorate (Parteivorstand). A strong representation of trade union (FDGB), youth (FDJ), cooperative (Konsum) and other mass organization functionaries attend the one-year study course.
15. Among the better known functionaries attending the one-year course is Paul Wessel, a member of the secretariat of the Politburo and chairman of the Economics Committee of the Peoples' Parliament (Volkskammer).

25X1

Herbert Gessner, political commentator of the Berlin Rundfunk, Heinz Brandt, former head of the press section of the Landesvorstand Berlin, and Rudi Wetzel, the chief editor of the "Neuer Weg" are attending the nine-month course.

16. There is a tendency among weak and mediocre students to attack prominent Party functionaries attending the courses during discussions with particular vehemence. This spirit of opposition makes itself felt whenever Heinz Brandt and Rudi Wetzel participate in a debate. Persistent attempts are made to show them up, which in the case of Rudi Wetzel appear to coincide with the desires of the school board which has not forgotten that he once criticized their teaching methods in an article published by the monthly "Neuer Weg".
17. The basic unit of study is the seminar. It is composed of between 20 and 25 students. Each seminar bears a special name. Giving free rein to its fancy, the school has chosen such names as Kirov, Kalinin, Dimitrov, etc. The seminar is also the basic Party unit, the Gruppe. The seminars elect a group leader, a deputy group leader and three functionaries for culture, competition and editorial work. The above-mentioned functionaries are put up for election by the Party Directorate of the school. The group leader himself appoints a sports functionary and a functionary for social and health welfare. After the seminar has been constituted, the first business transacted is the mutual introduction, i.e., each student presents his life history in free speech. Each Saturday between 11 AM and 1 PM the members of the seminar discuss internal affairs of their group. The terms seminar and group, the latter denoting a basic Party unit of the school, are interchangeable. In practical parlance, however, the term "group" is used most of the time even in connection with scholastic affairs. Each group has its own classroom. One teacher is designated as principal of the class. However, he need not be identical with the instructor running the seminar. Three hours of seminar in the classroom follow self-study periods. Each seminar

deals at most with three or four important problems raised in the preceding lecture. Students are expected to engage in dynamic discussions (kaempferisch) during the seminar. The students themselves must criticize and refute unclear or false formulations with vigor.

18. At present the following three basic study courses are under way:

- a. A nine-month course, scheduled to terminate some time in May 1950. It is attended by experienced Party workers (some of whom already occupy leading positions in the Party) sent to school in order to brush up on their theoretical knowledge. The next nine-month course is scheduled to commence in September 1950. The nine-month course has proved to be a success and will continue to be given. It is attended by approximately 150 students.
- b. The two-year course, which has already been given twice since the school was started, is scheduled to end in December 1950. It is believed that after this one has ended no more two-year courses, at least for the time being, will be organized. The main objections against its retention are based on the fact that the unavailability of functionaries for practical Party work for such a long time imposes a severe strain on an already under-strength functionary corps. Furthermore, it has been found that graduates from this course have been alienated from practical work and turned into theoreticians and specialists. The course is attended by a little less than 50 students.
- c. The one-year course, of which the current is the first. It is scheduled to terminate in December 1950. An extension, however, is not ruled out. Under any circumstances some of the students will be held back in order to do post-graduate work, or to be employed as teachers, or to be enrolled in the journalists' course.
- d. A special course, called Dozentenkurs, for educators, which lasts three months and which is scheduled to end in May 1950, is designed to train university teachers for the performance of political work.
- e. Besides the above-mentioned courses, there are short courses lasting between three days and four weeks. Special training is given to public administration functionaries, cultural functionaries, and Party propagandists. Other special courses are devoted to the teaching of the history of the CP USSR (B).

19. Heretofore the school curriculum was built around a system of historical chronology in the sense that all of the faculties at a given time were focusing on a specific period in the historical development of mankind. Students were given a voice in the decisions to which faculty they should be attached. This system no longer exists. Today the study centers on the departments themselves which are strictly separated from each other. Under the new system which was adopted at the time the one-year course started, the students have to pass through all the departments in the following order:

- a. History of the CP USSR (B)
- b. Philosophy
- c. Polit/Economics
- d. History
- e. Marxism and the national question
- f. Basic Problems (theory of the state, the classes, etc.).

20. Lectures take place in the general assembly hall (Aula). They are attended by the whole course. Based on the lecture the faculty prepares a bibliography as an aid for self-study. Each lecture is allotted an average of between 18 to 25 hours of self study. The lecture itself lasts for three hours. Students are expected to take notes as completely as possible. Based on

these notes the students, during the time set aside for self study prepare extracts for entry into their note books. The note books are checked at infrequent intervals.

21. Lecturers on a given subject included in the curriculum are selected by the members of the faculty. Lecturers are either members of the instructor body or brought in from the outside. A lecturer is required to submit his lecture completely in writing two weeks in advance of the date set for its delivery. The school board passes on it. It is no longer permissible to deliver lectures not previously submitted. This measure grew out of the school discussion with the case of Thiel. (See para. 32). Outside lecturers usually occupy leading positions in the Party or in the administrative apparatus of the DDR. Among them are Hanna Wolff who heads the consultation bureau of the Party Directorate (Parteivorstand), Dr. Frieda Rubiner who belongs to Abteilung Parteischulung of the Party Directorate, Kurt Fischer the chief of the Main Administration of the Peoples' Police, Stefan Heymann who heads the Culture and Education Section of the Party Directorate, Schneidewind, a member of the Party Training Section of the Parteivorstand, Fred Oelssner, chief editor of the "Einheit", and particularly Anton Ackermann, the Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
22. The department "History of the CP USSR (B)" devotes a major portion of its allotted time to teaching the uncovering of the Trotskyist and Bukharin conspiracy and to the practical conclusions which the Bolsheviks have drawn therefrom. Before going on their Easter vacations all students were given a mimeographed copy of Stalin's speech before the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1935, dealing with the subject "Shortcomings of Party Work." Although students were permitted to keep this paper, it was stressed that this paper was meant to be used in school only and that due care should be taken not to let it fall into the wrong hands. Anton Ackermann in two lectures impressed the students with the importance of the abbreviated History of the CP USSR (B), emphasizing that the SED could accomplish its ends only by letting itself be guided in its decision down to the smallest detail by the experiences of the CP of the USSR. An extended period of studying at home was aimed at making certain that this lesson was well learned.
23. The studies of the school center around Stalin and his works. The process of deification of Stalin is pushed with ever increasing vigor, to heights which it is difficult, for an outsider, to comprehend. There is no surer means of courting popularity with the school than to launch into adulatory outbursts whenever the opportunity presents itself. There is no surer means of countering unpopularity than to talk about Stalin. Tests are preponderantly made up of questions on Stalin's Life History. There is an endless succession of questions like: What is the historical and international importance of Stalin relative to....What kind of medals are worn by Stalin? Stalin, the Lenin of today, etc. There are 23 standard answers, which the students learn by heart, to the question: What does the name Stalin mean to you? One instructor stated that answers submitted to these questions furnish a particularly sure indication as to whether the answers stem from the heart or merely from the intellect. In this connection there has been a highly significant change in the general approach to the discussion of Stalin's philosophy: Whereas in the past year this approach was mainly conditioned by human reason and ideas were communicated in a rational fashion, leading disciples of Stalin like Ackermann and Oelssner and in particular the instructors of the school now emphasize that ideas have to be projected not so much by the head as by the heart. As a corollary it no longer causes embarrassment if a lecturer in dwelling on Stalin's virtues and infallibility waxes into a state choked with emotion. The distaff side of the student body in particular makes ample use of what has been described by a student not yet fully initiated as "cheap emotional tricks."

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1

24. More than before, theoretical problems on War, Peace and Revolution are presented. The military program developed by Lenin for use of the proletariat has been particularly stressed in several lectures. In a lecture Ackermann explained that this is so because of misunderstanding and false ideas on the important issue of the just and unjust war. Ackermann said that there is a great deal of confusion on this issue among the German working class. There were two major types of deviation, one which could best be characterized as "Sozial Chauvinismus", the other condemning war as such and spreading the false theory that there was no such thing as a just war. The transmutation of Marxism into pacifism is a serious weakness of our Party members. We have to drum it into their heads that the working class has to support a just war with all its means. Pacifism is nothing but peace claptrap, rigmarole, delusion of the masses, aid to war mongers. The masses must be disabused of the notion that prayers and resolutions are by themselves to preserve peace. Pacifist peace desires should be replaced by an active fight for peace.
25. Ackermann also stated that the re-militarization of the Russian Zone and the formation of the Peoples' Police had not even in the Party met with full understanding. For the same reason, Ackermann indicated that pacifism in every shape and form will be subjected to sharp attacks. Seminars have concerned themselves in considerable detail with the role played by pacifists in the World and in Western Germany. A general finding has been that as a rule pacifist organizations are in the hands of American Imperialists and are working in their behalf. The heroic deeds of the Red Army and its international significance are being propagandized extensively. Great importance is attached to the contention that it was the Soviet Union which single-handedly won the second world war and which saved the Americans and the British from defeat in Western Europe by launching an offensive. Allied supplies only constituted 4% of the total of supplies needed by the Red Army, part of which have never been used because their quality was such that the Soviet war economy could not use them.
26. The impending dismissal of Joseph Winternitz, the head of the Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute, was for the first time brought into the open in a lecture given by Hanna Wolff before the school in February 1950. Winternitz, she stated, had written an article for "Einheit" (Heft 2, Feb. 1950) entitled "Von Stalin Lernen" (to learn from Stalin). In this article he had the impudence to drag Stalin into the dirt, to depreciate his importance as a theoretician and to dwell on certain mistakes which Stalin - with a modesty so characteristic of the man - mentioned in the preface to his collected volumes. All this is bound to lead to a lowering of the esteem in which Stalin is held by the readers of the article. It was not the first time that Winternitz permitted himself such deviations. He and the editorial staff of "Einheit", who had displayed shocking lack of diligence, would be called to account. Oelsner, in a lecture before the school in March, also dealt with the accomplishments of the Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute and particularly stressed the bad impression made on him when Dr. Klaus Zweiling, the chief editor of "Einheit", was summoned before the Party Directorate. Zweiling, who is a natural scientist, had been scheduled to deliver a lecture on Lysenko, the Soviet geneticist. This lecture was subsequently cancelled.
27. Foremost among the guest lecturers was Anton Ackermann. His lectures enjoy great popularity among the students and meet with a great deal of applause. Frieda Rubiner gave two lectures on Russian History in the 19th Century. Her lectures convey extensive knowledge in the fields of culture and literature as well. They leave a great deal to be desired in structure and rhetorical delivery - probably due to Rubiner's age. The applause is more an indication of the respect in which she is held as a personality than of an appreciation of her lectures. Hanna Wolff also gave two lectures. She is very popular as a lecturer. Known to be one of Stalin's most passionate and uncompromising followers, she was the first to attack Winternitz and the editors of "Einheit" in very violent terms. Kurt Fischer, the chief of the Main Administration, also gave a lecture on the role of the Party in the

25X1

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-9-

25X1

played by the Party of Bolsheviks in the great War of Liberation. He harangued on the glorification of Stalin, the importance of the Soviet science of war under Stalin and details on the battles waged by the Red Army. His lecture, although it lacked sound theoretical foundation, met with great applause. Erich Glueckauf, the head of the Westbüro in the Party Directorate, lectured on the ideological stabilization of the KPD in Western Germany. His lecture centered around the resolution passed at the 14th conference of the Party Directorate of the KPD on 28-30 December 1949. In March the school received a visit from the principal of the Warsaw Party Academy who lectured on the work performed in his institution. It is planned to intensify contacts between the two schools.

28. Training methods as practiced in the school are still in flux, trends pointing in the direction of an ever closer adaptation to the Soviet Party schooling system as developed in the Lenin Academy. A visit paid by Hans Taeubner, the head of the Lehrabteilung, and Fred Oelssner, chief editor of "Die Einheit", to the USSR in February of this year, was to acquaint the functionaries with the schooling methods adopted in Soviet Party schools. Reforms are now being initiated which are a direct outgrowth of their findings and conclusions. It can be expected that a further innovation will soon be introduced which has likewise been imported from the USSR. It consists of short lectures given by members of the seminar who make a summary of sub-themes. These short lectures are then made the topic for discussion in a seminar. Another new feature will be the introduction of correspondence courses (Fernstudium) especially for the benefit of leading functionaries and for academy graduates. Participants will presumably be excused from duty (Parteiarbeit) one day a week. On that day they will be required to engage in home study, to prepare their theses and to send in their answers. As a corollary to the increased emphasis on schooling, the system of deputation will be further developed, requiring each functionary to train a deputy equipped to take over his duties at a moment's notice. This system has the following advantages: functionaries will be readily available for enrollment in Party schools, for assignment to a new function and for immediate dismissal if necessary. On the debit side it should be noted that this system would entail an enormous Kader increase. Other reorganizational moves projected for November have not as yet become known.
29. With the exception of Marxism and the National Question and Practical Party Politics, the names of the six departments connote the subjects which are studied at the Karl Marx Schule. When the student completes the instruction given by one department, he takes a written intermediate test. This test consists of individual questions presented to each student. Before the test, the student is told on what subjects he can expect to be tested. Then follows an oral test given by two seminar leaders. This oral test is attended by the members of the other seminar. This serves as a refresher course for the students and in addition accustoms the student who is being examined to deliver his thoughts in an unrehearsed speech before an audience. This method was learned in the USSR and for the first time introduced in the one-year course. In practice the oral test is handled as follows: each student draws a question, is given ten minutes' time to prepare himself and then holds forth on the subject. Subsequently he is subjected to a theoretical cross-examination by the two examiners. The test of each student lasts between twenty and thirty minutes. Students are graded on the basis of their written and oral tests. After the first few weeks so-called Studienaktivisten are selected from among the members of the seminar, whose task it is to help along those of their fellow-students who are weak in theoretical questions.
30. There is a distinct trend to restrict straight party activities in favor of more extensive studies. Heretofore, study courses included four weeks of practical work spent in industrial plants.

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25X1

Party district headquarters, etc. The current one-year study course has departed from this custom for the first time. Only once a week, on Wednesdays, 7-10 PM, students devote time to the study of Party directives or read articles in the Party press that have been declared required. The group and course Party leadership is changed once every six months. All members attending the study course elect the Party Directorate on the basis of a slate prepared by the Party directorate of the school. Nominations for the second election are submitted by the Party Directorate of the course about to be relieved. The Party Directorate of the course consists of seven members. The Party Directorate of the course is in direct liaison with the Party Directorate of the school. Its assigned task is to settle all questions pertaining to the running of the course. It sets the subject to be discussed at the meetings of the classes on Saturday. It is the connecting link between the individual student and the school board. Students attending the one-year study course are the first to pay their Party dues to the shop group of the Party Directorate. Criticism and self-criticism will become more and more important in Party schooling and therefore in Party schools. In practical terms, criticism and self-criticism are being executed as follows:

A student has for some reason exposed himself to criticism. This calls for a public accounting to be rendered in the presence of the Party unit he belongs to. In many instances the Party unit will look for flaws in the past history of the member as having brought about the condition to which exception is taken. Consequently it will be incumbent upon the member first of all to relate his life history and to permit himself to be questioned on even the minutest detail regarding certain phases of his past. At this stage the member will have to take particular care to avoid a slip of the tongue which will immediately be seized upon and interpreted. Very often the note underlying a series of questions can be easily fathomed, even when the questioner does not flatly state what he is after. If, however, the person under questioning attempts to anticipate the specific charge to which he feels questions are building up, he will usually maneuver himself into a much worse position. By defending himself against an accusation that has yet to be made, he by implication admits that in his mind at least, the violation of which he has not been specifically accused has as a possibility entered his mind.

He who submits no questions will in the long run also expose himself to suspicion. As a result, the questions asked are frequently downright silly, or are designed to draw out the accused on uninteresting details of his private life.

As a basic rule there is nothing in a Party member's past, not excluding his most intimate affairs, concerning which he could refuse accountability to Party and colleagues. As a rule the scrutiny of a person's life history will lead to the desired results.

A functionary indicating to the accused which particular part of his life history is considered unclear, betrays a lack of skill. Experienced practitioners in the field of investigation will leave the accused as long as possible in doubt as to the nature of the causes of suspicion and by employing the technique of cross-examination and by switching from one phase of his life to the next, will try to get at compromising facts. Full mastery of this technique, however, is usually achieved only by members of the Control Commissions of the Laender and the Central Control Commission. The duration of the investigation, in the school occasionally stretching out over weeks, has a particularly wearing effect. Some functionaries, who have already gained considerable experience, try to soften up the accused by the device of asking shock questions (such as - For what espionage organization do you work?).

After the investigation has come to an end, the functionary himself subjects his mistakes and shortcomings to a process of self-criticism. The other functionaries then enter into a discussion in order to reach a conclusion whether the self-criticism

was adequate, or in turn offer their own criticism. It is a special art to meet the requirements of the Party in the execution of self-criticism. It should be neither too exaggerated nor too soft. It should indicate what caused the mistakes and what steps are to be taken to ensure that similar mistakes are not being made by the accused or by other functionaries. It would be unwise to make a special plea for compassion, by pointing out that the dross of a bourgeois past is still there and requesting the Party's aid in purging himself of those remnants. That is a matter of course and need not be mentioned. What the accused functionary is mainly expected to do is to go to work on himself. As a rule the functionary in question is required to put criticism and self-criticisms down in writing and to publish it in a bulletin board newspaper.

A case that has come up in school will frequently be handled for months. The natural result is that the accused falls behind in his studies and that his personal insecurity keeps increasing. Finally, the accused thinks of nothing else than getting the thing over with and finding his rest. Eventually he may decide to shorten the process by making false confessions. The more complicated the case gets, the more the accused will lose touch with the room Kollektiv and with his personal acquaintances, who will either withdraw from him or will address him in a critical and didactic fashion, if at all.

In the last year the school has started a criticism and self-criticism campaign. This campaign is aimed at subjecting every student to a process of criticism and self-criticism, irrespective of any special cause for suspicion being present. This, however, has not met the approval of the Party, because criticism and self-criticism should not be practised in spurts, but develop into a permanent factor in the life of each Party member. This, the Party maintains, is in line with Zhdanov's dictum that the dialectical processes of socialism are criticism and self-criticism.

Responsibility for the internal security of the Academy is vested in the school board and the Party directorate of the academy. The arrests of students are performed in as unobtrusive a fashion as possible. Any discussion of arrests is frowned upon.

On about 20 March (fnu) Buettner, formerly first secretary of the SED Party district in Neustrelitz, who attended the nine months study course, and Peter Roeser, head of the Instrukteur (Org) Section of the SED Party district in Neustrelitz, were arrested by the state security service.

Beyond this brief notice ~~was~~ no official discussion of the cases.

32. In the middle of February 1950, Bernhard Thiel, one of the most gifted and capable instructors of the academy who is a member of the Polit/Economics faculty, was suddenly ousted and a short time later expelled from the Party. He was known to be a special protégé of the faculty head, Dr. (fnu) Lemnitz. This fact was unknown to the student body until 23 March when, in the course of a lecture, Fred Oelssner, broke the news. Oelssner, and siding with him the students, presented the school board with a request for immediate information on the circumstances of Thiel's dismissal and an open discussion. The latter took place on March 26 and 29 in all study courses. Heinz Abraham, deputy school principal, delivered the official address. He stated that Thiel had drafted the outline of a lecture which contained quotations from Trotzky and which propounded a false economic theory. Lemnitz had neglected to check the outline. Abraham inserted a few corrections. Nevertheless, standing errors remained and the lecture was given with considerable rhetorical pomp and received by the students with a frenzy of applause (which [redacted] is bestowed indiscriminately on all lecturers who exhibit rhetorical fervor). Thiel was also charged with having uttered Trotzkyist views in a speech delivered before the workers of the Stahl und Walzwerk Henningsdorf, and with having spread among his fellow instructors "lies" broadcast by RIAS. After having been uncovered, Thiel was forced to turn in all his private papers. The Party secretary of the school searched his home in Klein-Machnow. In the assessment of the case, mention was made of a formal reprimand issued by the school board against Lemnitz. The whole student body was treated to the act of contrition and self-criticism by Lemnitz which followed. Using a wealth of condemnatory terms Lemnitz censured his own conduct, representing himself as a warning example. (This, however, did not seem to interfere with his zest for living. Only a few hours later he attended a school dance with considerable abandon). In the course of the further discussion, some alarming features in Thiel's past came to light. The moral of this story was naturally that every student should search his past for black spots and should report them to the school administration. These black spots, it was pointed out, are readily exploited by the American espionage service. The man with a blemished past who fails to report this to his superiors automatically surrenders himself to seizure by the claws of the class enemy. As a result of this discussion several students submitted written reports to the Party Directorate. They reported facts of their past which they considered made themselves liable to Party censure. Almost without exception, completely silly and insignificant facts were cited. The gravest offense reported was that one of the students had volunteered for Army service. Almost all self-denunciations ended with the statement that, now having unburdened himself, the writer could look the Party openly in the eye. It was also concluded from the Thiel incident that all phony liberalism would finally have to be banished from the school. Indiscriminate trampling of feet and other applause after lectures would have to cease. There should be more discussions held in an aggressive spirit. The type of student who is taken in by rhetorical tricks should become a thing of the past. This, it should be recognized, was typical of the class enemy. Finally, listening to RIAS broadcasts and reading Western newspapers was branded as a capital crime.

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33. Each student gets free of charge the daily edition of "Neues Deutschland" and each room a free copy of the "Taegliche Rundschau". At the suggestion of study course members, the Kominform bulletin will also be included. Delegations from the various East Zone Laender will be furnished the Party organ of their respective Land. After the Press Conference in January 1950, the school took over the sponsorship of the Saechsische Parteizeitung. Each study course has its own bulletin board newspaper. A functionary of the Party Directorate of every study course is responsible for its contents. An editorial commission is composed of one member each drawn from the Party groups (seminars). The school board puts out its own newspaper, devoted to the discussion of theoretical problems and relying

mainly on contributions from faculty heads and teachers. Its responsible editor is a full-time functionary named Frau (fnu) Strange. The bulletin board newspapers put out by the study courses will be discontinued in the near future. Concurrently, the bulletin board newspaper of the school board will be enlarged. It is felt that the preoccupation with the editing of this newspaper detracts from the pursuance of studies. The school has an archive which contains copies of directives issued by the Central Committee of the CP (USSR) and of all Western newspapers. Students are prohibited from reading the latter. A school library loans out textbooks and novels. Students are under instruction to turn over to the school all literature of a Trotskyist, Fascist and broadly speaking hostile nature, in their possession. This, of course, primarily applied to students who came from the West. There is a selection of Trotskyist literature belonging to the school which is kept in the so-called "Giftschrank".

34. The school has a loud-speaker system, linked with each house in the school compound. Important news originating with the school board, music, and a bell sign indicating the end of a break are transmitted over this system. In the anteroom to the main assembly hall (Aula) is a radio set. The assembly hall itself is equipped with a microphone set-up. Radio sets in the various rooms are the student's private property. Each student is held responsible that RIAS is not heard on private sets. Violations are to be reported without delay to the school board or the Party Directorate. Mail is distributed each noon. It reaches the mail room of the school in the mornings. All outgoing mail is to be despatched through the mail room. There is no official censorship. The official address of the school is: Klein-Machnow, Postoffice Stahnsdorf, Partei-hochschule Karl Marx, name of study course. Students can telephone with the outside from a room in the school.

35. The school buildings are locked at 11 PM. Subterranean hallways linking the various buildings are also locked. The school has three exits. All three are guarded by a watchman who checks the special credentials of the school. All persons without such a pass have the greatest difficulties gaining access to the school. They have to get permission either from the school board or the Party Directorate. In case there is reason to believe that a student may attempt to escape, the guards at the gate are notified. If circumstances warrant, students occupying rooms adjacent to that of the suspect are alerted. The members of each study course have a claim to three or four days leave once every six weeks. Any special leave, which includes absence from the school over Saturday and Sunday, requires special permission. Students who reside in Potsdam or Berlin can go home without special permission if they leave after 1 PM on Saturday. They have to leave the address at which they can be reached over the weekend with the school office. By 11 PM on Sunday they have to be back in the school. If they are late, their names are registered at the gate and they have to report to the so-called Kontrollpunkt which is attended by a functionary around the clock.

In order to raise discipline, discipline contests have been held. This contest requires each student to report to the contest functionary all infractions of discipline such as shaving during the period set aside for home study. Then a minus score is chalked up against the group to which the perpetrator belongs. If a room Kollektiv or a group Kollektiv fails to report such infractions, the respective Kollektiv is charged with ten minus points. This contest has resulted in cases of contest functionaries hiding behind doors in order to increase their score of minus points. The whole system has been subjected to strong criticism and has been openly discussed by the student body. It is bound to be abolished. The highest penalty meted out by the school is expulsion. An expulsion is proposed by the Party group of the study course Party Directorate. The school board and the school Party Directorate either approve or disapprove the expulsion.

36. The food is good. The fare includes 100 grams of fat per day. Meat or sausage is served at least once a day. Weak or sick persons are allowed a special diet, especially butter and milk. Meals are served at fixed hours, with punctuality being rigidly enforced. Tardiness is strongly criticised. An infirmary in the school with two night and day nurses permanently assigned takes care of the sick. A woman doctor from Niederschoenhausen is available for consultation in the school three times a week. In case of serious illness the patient is immediately transferred to the hospital in Klein-Machnow or in Buch. Every four weeks the students are weighed. At longer intervals they are X-rayed. The most frequent sickness is tuberculosis. Special care is devoted to contraception. It appears that the school administration and the Party Directorate have resigned themselves to the prevalence of so-called "Schuelerehen", i.e., male and female entering into illicit relationships. The school definitely frowns on pregnancy. The issuing of contraceptive devices is promoted with considerable zeal. Pregnancy calls for criticism and self-criticism and definitely reflects on the record of the Party school affected. Abortions are performed by the woman doctor on the premises, not in the hospitals outside the school.
37. All students who, at the time of their entry into the school, were in the state service are entitled to receive their pay for six months. Recent directives provide for Party and trade union functionaries to continue receiving their pay for twelve months. Students who came straight from the Soviet Union draw a stipend of between 100 and 150 East Marks per month. All students benefit from sales of textiles and shoes which take place under the auspices of the school.
38. Most students are members of the "Volksbuehne" (a cultural organization entitling its members to attend theater performances free of charge). Once every four weeks they attend theater and opera performances in East Berlin. Twice a week a movie is shown free of charge on the school premises. The Thursday performance is devoted to the showing of a film which fits the theme of a current training course, almost without exception of Soviet make. Some of the old Soviet movies are also shown (Battleship Potemkin, etc.). On Sundays movies which had their premiere the week before are shown. Twice a month, on Saturday, the students attend a study course party, with dancing as the main feature. Each Monday evening is set aside for a cultural affair. A leading cultural functionary, such as Erpenbeck, the cultural editor of "Neues Deutschland", lectures on Marxian aesthetics. In addition the Party groups (each seminar being equivalent to a Party group) have their own cultural affairs; the anniversaries of Karl Marx, Ernst Thaelmann, etc. On Sundays the Party groups or a whole study course go on hikes, visit for example, the war memorial in Treptow Park, the Stalin exhibit at the Leipzig Fair. The school sends delegations, preferably composed of members from Western Germany, to big state affairs such as the opening of the 3rd parliament in Leipzig.